

The Office of the Governor **Proclamation**

Executive Department State of Idaho

State Capitol Boise

WHEREAS, April has been designated National Child Abuse Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, studies infer between 15 and 34 percent of women report having suffered sexual abuse as a child; and

WHEREAS, studies infer between 3 and 9 percent of men report having suffered sexual abuse as a child; and

WHEREAS, recently there were more than 2,700 substantiated incidences of child abuse and child neglect in Idaho; and

WHEREAS, concurrently there were 49,000 children under eighteen years of age who were uninsured, making treatment difficult to access; and

WHEREAS, Lutheran Community Services Northwest has determined to raise community awareness about child abuse and child neglect with Children Are Our Flowers community events in an effort to eradicate said potential abuses; and

WHEREAS, Lutheran Community Services Northwest has determined to secure funding for the express purpose of providing professional mental health services to the uninsured and the under-insured of our Idaho communities who have suffered the hand of abuse; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DIRK KEMPTHORNE, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim April 2003, to be

CHILDREN ARE OUR FLOWERS MONTH

in Idaho, and I encourage all Idahoans to reaffirm their personal commitment to protect our children and provide for the treatment of those in need.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this seventh day of February in the year of our Lord two-thousand and three and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred twenty-seventh and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred thirteenth.

DIRK KEMPTHORNE GOVERNOR

BEN ISUKSA
SECRETARY OF STATE